GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3475
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2008
INDIAN MISSIONS ABROAD
Agarwal Shri Dhirendra;Prabhu Shri Suresh Prabhakar;Prasad Shri Hari Kewal

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Missions functioning abroad;

(b) the details of funds allocated and utilized by these missions during the last three years, year-wise and mission-wise;

(c) whether any mechanism has been put in place to evaluate their performance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

(a) India has resident Missions in 116 countries and also has 5 Special Missions.

(b) Details of funds allocated and utilised by all these missions during the last three years, year-wise and mission-wise are enclosed as an annexure.

(c)−(d) Yes. Mission`s performance is constantly evaluated by considering various parameters including progress in bilateral relations, budget of the Mission, consular and visa services, bilateral trade and economic relations, etc. Evaluation of the periodic reports sent by the Missions is done by the Ministry against the political objectives. Additionally, regular returns on consular functions and the internal administration of the Chancery are evaluated by the relevant functioning divisions of the Ministry. Moreover, regular inspections of the Missions are carried out by senior officers of the Ministry periodically to review their functioning. In addition, statutory inspection of Missions' accounts is also undertaken by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and the Principal Chief Controller of Accounts of MEA at regular intervals to ensure that they are functioning in conformity with prescribed procedures and delegated financial powers.